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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION HARRISBURG

PUBLIC EDUCATION BULLETIN

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AT HARRISBURG, FOR INFORMATION OF BOARDS OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, AND INTERESTED CITIZENS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2904D OF THE SCHOOL LAWS.

VOLUME 2 OCTOBER, 1934 NUMBER 2

Jobs For 5000 Possible In Emergency Program

Jobs for 5,000 unemployed teachers and other professional workers are a possibility for this fall and winter as the result of expansion of the emergency education relief program. This is a substantial increase over last year's total of approximately 1,800 jobs. Positions will begin to open about October 15 or soon thereafter.

The new emergency education program will be developed as a part of the Local Works Program. The number to be employed in each county will be based on a study of the local relief situation and a state-wide survey of educational needs conducted by the State Emergency Relief Board and the Department of Public Instruction.

The reorganized emergency education program will be administered locally through the county or area emergency education supervisor who will be a member of the Local Work Division Staff. The County Emergency Education Council will assist this supervisor in an advisory capacity. The supervisor and the chairman of the Emergency Education Council will check all projects sent to the State Emergency Relief Board for approval.

In order to make most effective this enlarged program seven state supervisors of special fields will assist the State Director in keeping the emergency education work at a high standard.

Many of the unemployed teachers who will become a part of the emergency education teaching staff need special training in adult education. Plans are now under way for the establishment of training centers where methods and problems of adult education will be studied by prospective emergency education teachers.

Local Activities Suggested

The fields of emergency education activities have increased under the reorganized program. Many activities of educational and social value which are not classroom projects have been added. A suggestive list of fields of approved activities for the new program includes:

Classes for adults in higher and elementary subjects; classes for workers; nursery school classes; dramatics, music, art, handicraft, vocational guidance, health instruction, child care and parent education, classes for handicapped persons, classes in home economics and nutrition, library extension work, such as small branch libraries in outlying districts.

Other approved activities include: super-

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STATE-WIDE INTEREST SHOWN IN SCHOOL RECOVERY CONFERENCE

PUBLIC COOPERATION

A PROMINENT woman who has more than ordinary interest in the success of public education wrote me a few days ago relative to the Citizens' Conference on Public School Recovery. She said that school people in these trying times must take citizens and taxpayers generally more into their confidence, not only on the financial but also on the educational side.

I agree entirely with this thought. In fact it was the chief reason for planning the Citizens' Conference at this time.

It is traditional in Pennsylvania that public education has been a matter of concern to thinking citizens.

In short, our public schools cannot rise above the level of the public opinion formed in their support. All citizens have a right to know and should make an effort to learn what the schools are doing and how they are doing it. The schools belong to the people—not to teachers and the superintendents.

I wish every citizen—every parent and taxpayer—could join in this school recovery conference and the local community school meetings that will follow. Cooperative thinking and action on public school problems in the months immediately ahead will mean more than mere efforts to keep schools open.

The welfare of every community—the future of the Commonwealth itself—is vitally affected by what happens to the schools as we work for and achieve national recovery.

JAMES N. RULE
Superintendent

The annual Western Pennsylvania Education Congress is to be held in Pittsburgh October 18, 19 and 20. An impressive list of speakers has been prepared for this meeting which annually draws educators and interested citizens from Western Pennsylvania counties. Meetings open with a conference on parent education on the evening of the 18th. Important group conferences are scheduled for Friday and Saturday.

Response to the call for the first state-wide Citizens' Conference to consider current public education problems has been most gratifying. From every part of the State laymen and school people will gather in Harrisburg on October 10 and 11 to give serious attention to one of the most vital of reconstruction questions—public school recovery to insure equalized educational opportunity for every boy and girl of the Commonwealth. There are indications that the Education Building Forum will be taxed to capacity.

From the time Governor Gifford Pinchot opens the first session until Superintendent James N. Rule closes the conference by outlining the next step to be taken, outstanding business and educational executives and economists will present vital essentials of school recovery. The information and suggestions gained in the three sessions will provide suitable material for local community citizens' conferences later in the year. From these gatherings there should come definite proposals leading to a desirable program of legislation which will bring stability for schools of the future.

Organizations Represented

The Conference program makes provision for participation by representatives of state-wide organizations actively interested in the maintenance of high standards in public education. These include the American Legion, the State Grange, the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, the League of Women Voters, the Congress of Parents and Teachers, the State Chamber of Commerce, the State Federation of Labor, and the Public Charities Association. They represent a cross-section of lay groups that will contribute much to the purpose and aims of the Citizens' Conference.

Conference themes will follow the "Three R's of School Recovery." At the opening session under the theme "The State's Responsibility for Public Education", the Governor will speak on Education and the State. Superintendent Rule will emphasize Reconstruction of the instructional program, and give a background of facts for guidance of discussions at succeeding sessions on Reorganization of school districts and Revision of the system of school support. The principal address at the opening session will be by Dr. Charles H. Judd, director of the school of education, University

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PUBLIC EDUCATION BULLETIN

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Vol. 2 October, 1934 No. 2

All material herein is released to the press upon receipt

Art and the School

AN UNUSUAL opportunity to give publicity to the splendid art work in our schools is afforded by Fine Arts Week, November 5 to 10 inclusive, which is also American Education Week. Art exhibitions may be arranged in schools, stores, libraries, and other places. Illustrated art programs may be given in school assemblies, and arts and crafts generally emphasized in the school and community life.

This Arts Week enterprise is sponsored by the American Artists Professional League and the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women. Important artists, art patrons, club women, and laymen make up the list of honorary chairmen.

Art teachers and supervisors will no doubt welcome this opportunity to interest parents and school patrons in the work in the schools, and assist in this national movement for the promotion of the American Arts in American life.

Art is growing day by day to occupy a more significant place in our industrial, social, and community life. Foundations for this enrichment of life have been laid in our public schools.

JAMES N. RULE.

School Recovery Conference

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of Chicago, on "Education and Social Progress."

DISTRICT REORGANIZATION

Discussion on school district reorganization will feature the Thursday morning session when the theme is "School Organization and Administration." The presiding officer will be Ralph E. Weeks, of Scranton, chairman of the state taxation and expenditures committee of the State Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Arthur Bennett Hall, director of the Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C., has been obtained to present national trends in reorganization of government, and the Pennsylvania State Treasurer, Charles A. Waters, will present points showing the desirability for organization of governmental units in the interest of economy and efficiency. The school district angle will be presented by Dr. James C. Miller, professor of educational administration at the University of Pennsylvania, in terms of needs and interests of pupils and taxpayers.

SCHOOL FINANCE

School finance constitutes one of the most important phases of Pennsylvania school recovery from depression conditions and "Financing the Public Schools" is the theme set for the closing session on Thursday afternoon. The presiding officer will be Walter Biddle Saul of the Philadelphia board of education. The financing of public schools will be considered from two angles. Problems of city school districts will be presented by N. R. Criss, solicitor for the Pittsburgh board of education, and problems of the small school districts will be discussed by Francis Cope, Jr., member of the Pennsylvania State Council of Education. Various phases of the tax situation as related to the public school system will be outlined by Dr. Marion K. McKay, professor of economics, University of Pittsburgh.

Because of the unusually large attendance expected at the Conference it has been decided that the annual Education Congress luncheon will be eliminated this year.

All who plan to attend the Conference should arrive in time to participate in the reception to be held in the offices of the Department in the Education Building on Wednesday afternoon.

School Building Activities Show Great Increase

The heaviest school building program since 1929 is recorded by the school buildings division of the Department of Public Instruction. During the 1933-34 school year boards of school directors, acting on the recommendations of the Federal Public Works and Civil Works Administrations launched several hundred school building programs.

Possibility of Federal Aid for new school buildings during the present school year has aroused the interest of many communities. School directors are having plans for new buildings drafted and submitted for approval. When the Federal money is actually made available several projects will be launched immediately.

A total of 281 projects were registered last school year with the Department, involving several millions of dollars. These projects ranged in estimated cost from the small alteration and repair program to the complete plans and specifications for a million dollar project. The work involved in checking and reporting on plans and specifications has been multiplied many times.

It is estimated that approximately one thousand conferences were held during the year in outlining to school districts the policy and procedure to be followed and in making recommendations and modifying programs. The school building program has added a decided stimulus to the work of all trades involved.

Jobs for 5000 Possible

(Concluded from Page 1)

vising playgrounds, supervising hobby clubs, conducting story hours, dramatic performances, public concerts, youth centers, organizing and supervising community centers, art and music projects, and historical survey projects.

Certain important changes in the administration of the emergency education program have resulted from its reorganization. Noteworthy among these are:

The consideration of a minimum family budget in assigning work to unemployed persons employed on emergency education projects. Careful study of budgetary requirements has formed the basis for this procedure, and

Regular and uniform weekly payment which will meet the family budgetary deficiency to be continued as long as a person is assigned to an emergency education project.

Education Calendar

1934

Oct. 4-5—Central Convention District, P.S.E.A., Lock Haven.
Oct. 9-10-11—Biennial Convention, Pennsylvania Congress of Parents and Teachers, Scranton.
Oct. 10-11—Education Congress; Citizens' Conference on School Recovery, Harrisburg.
Oct. 11—General Pulaski Day.
Oct. 11-13—Pennsylvania Library Association, Hershey.
Oct. 15-19—State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, Harrisburg.
Oct. 19—Fall Arbor and Bird Day.
Oct. 19.—Northwestern Convention District, P.S.E.A., Oil City.
Oct. 19-20—Western Convention District, P.S.E.A., and Western Pennsylvania Education Conference, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh.
Oct. 19-20—Eastern Convention District, P.S.E.A., Pottsville.
Oct. 19-20—Tenth Annual Conference on Secondary Education, Temple University, Philadelphia.
Oct. 24—Penn Day.
Oct. 26-27—Midwestern Convention District, P.S.E.A., Beaver Falls.
Oct. 27—Roosevelt Day.
Nov. 2-3—Pa. Association of Deans of Women, Harrisburg.
Nov. 5-11—American Education Week.
Nov. 11-17—Children's Book Week.
Nov. 28—Thanks For Health Day.
Dec. 5-8—American Vocational Association, Pittsburgh.
Dec. 26-28—State Convention of P.S.E.A. Harrisburg.

1935

Feb. 23-28—Department of Superintendence, N.E.A., Atlantic City, N. J.

Inauguration of Dr. Rohrbach

Trustees of the State Teachers College at Kutztown have announced the formal inauguration of Dr. Qunicy A. W. Rohrbach as the sixth president of the college, Friday morning, October 19. Ceremonies will start with an academic procession and close with a luncheon.

Invitations have been extended to all accredited colleges and universities in Pennsylvania to send representatives. Many administrative and supervisory officers of the public schools are expected to attend as a tribute to the new president who was formerly professor of educational administration at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Rohrbach's inaugural address will follow a brief talk by Dr. James N. Rule, Superintendent of Public Instruction. Henry Klonower, chief of the teacher division, Department of Public Instruction, will be toastmaster at the luncheon.

Trustees of the State Teachers College at Slippery Rock have set November 10 as the date for the formal installation of Dr. Charles S. Miller as president. The date for the inauguration of Dr. Carmon Ross, new president of the State Teachers College at Edinboro, has not been set.

Citizens' Conference on School Recovery in Pennsylvania

October 10 and 11, 1934

The Education Building Forum,

Harrisburg

PROGRAM

Wednesday Afternoon, October 10, from 2 to 5 o'clock

Registration and reception—Main Lobby and Offices of the Department of Public Instruction, Education Building

WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 10, at 8 o'clock

THEME—The State's Responsibility for Public Education

Presiding: THE HONORABLE GIFFORD PINCHOT
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

The Grenadier by Hardy — ROBERT ISELE
Student at John Harris High School, Harrisburg, first division winner in the 1934 National High School Trombone Contest
Donald Hoch at the piano

School Recovery to meet the Needs of Pennsylvania's Children — JAMES N. RULE
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Fantaisie Pastorale Hongroise by Doppler, Opus 26 — LOY EBERSOLE
Student at John Harris High School, Harrisburg, first division winner in the 1934 National High School Flute Contest
Donald Hoch at the piano

Education and Social Progress — CHARLES H. JUDD
Director, School of Education, University of Chicago

THURSDAY MORNING, October 11, at 9:15 o'clock

THEME—School Organization and Administration

Presiding: RALPH E. WEEKS, Scranton
Chairman of the State Taxation and Expenditures Committee Pennsylvania State Chamber of Commerce

Trends in the Reorganization of Government — ARTHUR BENNETT HALL
Director, Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C.

Organization of Governmental Units in the Interest of Economy and Efficiency — CHARLES A. WATERS
State Treasurer

Organization of School Districts in Terms of Needs and Interests of Pupils and Taxpayers — JAMES C. MILLER
Professor of Educational Administration, University of Pennsylvania

GREETINGS:

Pennsylvania Department, The American Legion, OTTO F. MESSNER, *Commander*

The Pennsylvania League of Women Voters, MRS. DAVID CHANDLER PRINCE, *President*

The Public Charities Association of Pennsylvania, DR. CHARLES H. FRAZIER, *President*

The Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor, JOHN A. PHILLIPS, *President*

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, October 11, at 1:45 o'clock

THEME—Financing the Public Schools

Presiding: WALTER BIDDLE SAUL
Member, Board of Education, Philadelphia

Financing the Public Schools:
Problems of City School Districts — N. R. CRISS
Solicitor, Board of Education, Pittsburgh

Problems of the Small School Districts — FRANCIS COPE, JR.
Member, Pennsylvania State Council of Education

Some Phases of the Tax Situation as Related to the Public School System — MARION K. MCKAY
Professor of Economics, The University of Pittsburgh

GREETINGS:

The Pennsylvania State Grange, J. A. BOAK, *Master*

The Pennsylvania Congress of Parents and Teachers, MRS. WALTER E. GREENWOOD, *President*

The State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, MRS. RICHARD J. HAMILTON, *President*

The Next Step — JAMES N. RULE
Superintendent of Public Instruction

REGISTRATION AND RECEPTION

All who plan to attend the Citizens' Conference are urged to participate in the informal reception to delegates and speakers in the offices of the Department of Public Instruction, second and third floors of the Education Building, on Wednesday afternoon from two to five o'clock. Staff members will be in their offices for the purpose of greeting visitors and explaining the operation of their respective bureaus and divisions. The Forum, the State Library and the State Museum will be open to visitors. Superintendent Rule will greet all visitors in his reception room.

It is important that everyone attending the Conference register at special desks provided in the Main Lobby and the third floor corridor of the Education Building on Wednesday afternoon, or in the Forum Lobby on Wednesday evening, Thursday morning and afternoon.

The annual Education Congress luncheon will not be held this year.

Supply Teaching Aid In One-room Schools

The Department of Public Instruction has placed in the hands of all county superintendents, for use of teachers in one-room schools, copies of a new daily program for one-teacher schools.

It is a "block program" built on the principle that the effective organization of the program of the one-teacher school requires a plan which will keep each child constructively and progressively employed throughout the whole of the school day.

Long periods are provided for each of the various subjects. The teacher directs the activities of all of the pupils all of the time and selects individuals and groups for specific instruction, direction and testing. Individuals are combined into groups and smaller groups are combined into still larger groups in the pursuit of common aims. Pupils are provided with maximum opportunity for the exercise of self-dependence and self-evaluation.

The program seeks to obtain efficiency and economy of time (1) through emphasis upon the needs of the individual; (2) through group and class instruction where work of this type best fits the conditions that exist; (3) through alternation of units where this may be done advantageously; (4) through occupation of pupils in self-directed and self-evaluated activities when not otherwise specifically engaged; and (5) through individual attention on a diagnostic basis.

In introducing a block program, it is suggested that a teacher may wish to develop a modified block program as a first step. Development of the complete block program should follow as rapidly as the teacher feels able to control the situation. In such a case, one block probably should be developed at a time, with the modified program used for the remainder of the periods. As the teacher, the pupils of the community become acquainted with the new plan and are convinced of its value, additional blocks may be included. The schedules of the two programs combine easily.

CHEMISTRY EXHIBITS

A limited number of displays of the various products obtained in the refining of Pennsylvania grade crude oil are available for chemistry classes in schools and colleges. Each consists of a steel rack showing a map of the Pennsylvania oil region and a flow chart outlining a typical refining process; and samples of 20 products such as gasoline, wax, fuel oil, and petroleum jelly, from raw crude to finished motor oil.

A sufficient number of bulletins to be used as texts in connection with instruction will be provided with each exhibit. The displays contain no advertising material nor other matter which might be considered as objectionable.

Instructors of chemistry classes may obtain an exhibit for their classes by making written application on school stationery to the Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil Association, Box 32, Oil City, Pa. The display rack and bulletins will be forwarded to the school without charge upon receipt of such application.

Check and Double Check!

Opportunity to make a self-check of school building fire hazards is given school officers and directors during National Fire Prevention Week, October 7 to 13. Through the National Underwriters Association the Department of Public Instruction has obtained a supply of a special fire hazard questionnaire, and copies have been sent to all school board secretaries.

The blank is not to be returned to the Department or the association. The purpose is to give local school officials opportunity to make a safety study of buildings for their own information and assistance in providing for safety of the children entrusted to their care during school hours.

School building fire losses at this time are quite serious, since rebuilding is difficult to finance. School directors are urged to use the special blank and make all possible adjustments found to be necessary as a result of the self-inspection.

Inspect Playground Equipment

Studies of accidents on playgrounds, according to an article in *Safety Education* by Geo. D. Butler, show that the chief contributing factors are tripping, falling and collision, loss of grip on play apparatus, playing in restricted areas, unauthorized climbing, and improper use of apparatus.

All playgrounds should be thoroughly inspected and repaired periodically, particularly with reference to the following points:

1. The surfacing and all facilities should be examined for defects caused by wear and climatic conditions.
2. A careful search should be made for broken parts, slivers, protruding nails, and loose joints.
3. The condition of all bolts and fastenings should be investigated.
4. Ball bearings and movable parts should be tested and well lubricated.
5. Protruding rocks should be removed from the ground and holes filled in.
6. Depressions under swings and other apparatus should be corrected.
7. All wooden surfaces should be painted or otherwise treated.

SUPERVISION

1. Prohibit throwing swings over the frames, winding ropes or chains of the giant stride around the pole, and banging the seesaw.
2. Limit the use of the apparatus to the children it is intended to serve.
3. Do not permit children over six in the chair swings or allow boys and girls over fifteen to use the larger swings.
4. Restrict the use of the gymnasium frame to children over eight.
5. Prohibit the use of apparatus when it is wet or when the ground beneath it is slippery.
6. It is sometimes desirable to restrict certain apparatus to boys or girls.

SECONDARY EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The tenth conference on Secondary Education is to be held at Temple University, Philadelphia, on October 19 and 20. The general theme for the conference will be "Social Goals for Secondary Education." The general topic for six panel discussions will be "What are the Earmarks of a Democratic School."

Junior High School Science Course

A new State course of study in General Science for grades 7, 8, and 9 has just been released. It was developed by a cooperative committee of supervisors and teachers of science.

Publication of Bulletin 73 marks the completion of a program of science education as a part of the regular science work for all grades, one to twelve. For the first time a definite attempt has been made to give pupils a fundamental knowledge and understanding of the world of science, progressively through the grades.

A single copy of this course of study has been sent to all supervising principals, high school principals, assistant county superintendents, assistant district superintendents and directors of training schools, and a science teacher in each of the State Teachers Colleges. The supply sent to each county and district superintendent has been determined on the basis of one copy for each 150 pupils enrolled in the seventh, eighth, and ninth grades of the secondary schools under the superintendent's jurisdiction. If additional copies are needed so that each teacher of science will have one, superintendents should requisition the required number. Where the seventh and eighth grades are departmentalized but not a part of the secondary school organization, county and district superintendents should request additional copies to introduce this work in these grades of the elementary school. The units have been so arranged that the course is adapted for use in both 8-4 organizations and reorganized schools.

This bulletin is not intended for distribution to rural schools but may be used in cases where teachers are doing special work in the field of science. The course as outlined in pages 232 to 237 inclusive of Bulletin 45, Course of Study for One-Teacher Elementary Schools, can be followed for one-teacher schools.

High School Service Developed By University of Pittsburgh

The University of Pittsburgh has developed a program for cooperation with the high schools in the Pittsburgh area, which represents a forward looking development in college and secondary school relationships. The principal features of the plan are as follows:

Each semester a liaison representative of the University visits each school, taking with him a complete report of the work done by former students of the school in the college. The liaison representative explains the reports and discusses any problems which have arisen with the local school authorities. The liaison officer also is responsible for providing speakers for various school events, for handling pupils referred from secondary school principals, for interviewing high school students and their parents who are sent to the campus for advice, and for making special investigations of the records of students who have become problem cases on the University campus.

In connection with this program the University sends out literature to the various schools such as college catalogs and other publications useful to vocational counselors.